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Soldiers of the American Revolution Buried in Illinois

BY MRS. EDWIN S. WALKER.

The Military records of over 200 soldiers of the American Revolution, who are buried in the State of Illinois, have been secured and the burial places, of at least three-fourths of the number, located.

That errors have found place, is not strange, owing to information received being incorrect.

When the full records of more than 400, who are known to be buried in Illinois, are secured, a careful revision will be made, and all inaccuracies, so far as found, will be corrected, preparatory to publishing in a suitable form. It is desired that this work be finished in time for the commemoration of the Centennial of the State.

In a recent issue of the Journal, Vol. VII, No. 2, July, 1914, the record and name of a member of the Latimer family was incorrect. We are glad to make the correction.

Jonathan Latimer was a native of New London, Conn.

He was commissioned first as Captain, then Major, and finally as Colonel, serving in the Connecticut line of troops.

He was in the Third Connecticut Regiment known as Webb's Regiment.

This sturdy patriot was doubly honored, since six of his sons were in the service of their country.

Colonel Latimer came to Illinois, settling in Knox county in 1832, where he died and lies buried in Cherry Grove cemetery, Abingdon. Jonathan Latimer and his six sons, deserve all the honor that the present and coming generations can give. The heroic men of that period did not stop to ask "What is all

this worth?" or "What is there in it for me?" They cherished high ideals, and these ideals were placed above all else that the world could give. Verily, "the nation that forgets to honor its heroes will soon cease to be heroic."

KANE COUNTY.

William Bennett was born at Sandown, New Hampshire, May 9, 1758. He enlisted four different times; first, August, 1776, under Capt. Nathan Brown, Col. Pierce Long, New Hampshire troops. Second, 1779, serving with the same captain and colonel. Colonel Bedel, third time, July 1780, in Massachusetts troops, Capt. — Johnson, Colonel Wadsworth; fourth time, September 1782, with Capt. Cutting Farror, New Hampshire troops. He was in the battle of Fort Ann. After the war he removed to New York, Geneseo County, and in 1836 he came to Kane County, Illinois, where he died Feb. 15, 1846, and is buried near Wasco in a private burying ground.

Nathan Brown, a native of New York, enlisted in the Chapin Company, under Capt. Benjamin Chapin, Col. Thaddeus Crane's Regiment, Westchester County. After the war he came to Illinois, settling in Kane County where he died and is probably buried in Batavia township.

Daniel Burroughs was born in New York, he enlisted in the Charlotte County Militia with Capt. Elshama Tozer and Cols. Alexander Webster, and Thomas Armstrong, in the Dorset Regiment.

He came to reside in Kane County, Illinois, and died in Batavia Township.

Abner Powers was born in Richmond, New Hampshire, Dec. 15, 1760. He enlisted Jan. 1, 1777, serving until December, 1781, under Col. John Stark, again served in the Seventh Company 1778 for two years, Capt. William Farwell's Company. He again served from Richmond until 1782.

He came to Illinois, settling in Kane county where he died Oct. 19, 1852 in Virgil Township, and was buried at Lily Lake. A marble slab was placed at his grave, bearing the significant

date 1776, and the inscription, "A Soldier of the Revolution," also a sword carved in the marble.

Several years since, while attending a Knight Templar's funeral, Mr. Lewis M. Gross, of Sycamore, noticed that the slab was broken in three pieces. Investigation of his military history revealed the patriotism of this Hero of the War, and that he served in the battles of Bennington, Saratoga, Valley Forge, and Yorktown. As a result it was determined that a suitable monument should be erected to his memory. Several years ago on July 4th, a beautiful and imposing granite monument was unveiled with appropriate ceremonies.

The monument stands thirty feet high, of rough granite, the west side of the die being smooth where the inscription is placed.

Three companies of the Third Regiment, and five hundred members of the Grand Army, with a large band of forty-eight pieces, civic societies, and a large number of citizens, came to do honor to Abner Power's memory. We cannot too highly honor these men who sacrificed so much that an enduring government might be handed down to their descendants.

Frederick Vaughn came from the State of Connecticut, where he enlisted under Lt. Col. — Canfield in the Connecticut Militia. He was born in 1767, and died in Aurora, Kane County, Aug. 6, 1845, and is buried in the Root Street cemetery (now forsaken), Aurora, Illinois.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY.

This county, though one of the most northern counties in the state, is honored by being the burial place of Revolutionary Soldiers.

The Rockford Chapter D. A. R. has marked the graves of three of these pioneer-patriots, and assisted in marking the graves of others in Ogle and Boone Counties.

Samuel Campbell, a native of Massachusetts, born Oct. 8, 1762, was a private in Capt. John Spoor's Company, Col. John Brown's Regiment, serving three months; also serving seven

days with Col. John Ashley Jr.'s Regiment. Again under Lt. Moses Hubbard by order of Gen. John Fellows, and with Capt. James Campbell, service six days. Samuel Campbell came to Illinois and settled in Winnebago County, where he died Nov. 8, 1844, and is buried in the Hulse cemetery, Pecatonica. His grave was marked May 26, 1908.

Jehiel Harmon was born in Suffield, Connecticut, Oct. 5, 1762, he early enlisted in the service of his country, taking the place of an older brother who was ill and forced to leave the service.

His service was during the closing six months of the war. He came to Illinois and settled in Winnebago County, where he died March 3, 1845, and is buried in the West Side cemetery, Rockford. His grave was marked June 14, 1902.

Ephriam Palmer was a native of Massachusetts; he enlisted in 1777 when but 17 years of age in Capt. Sylvanus Cobb's Company, for one month, and again for three months with the same leader. In 1778 and 1779 he served one year under Capt. — Lockwood's Company; Col. John Wood's Regiment. He was taken prisoner June 7, 1779 and confined in the Small Pox Hospital, New York; was exchanged February 1780, and again served his country, enlisting from Salem, New York, as a substitute with Capt. — Stevens, and was one who was placed to guard the notorious Major Andre.

He early came to Illinois, settling in Winnebago County, where he died and is buried in the Kishwaukee cemetery, Kishwaukee. His grave was marked in June, 1907.

OGLE COUNTY.

Ogle County has an additional name to add, that of Rufus Phelps, who was born in 1767 in New York, where he enlisted for six months in Dutchess County, was stationed at Fort Herkimer. He was wounded and was discharged from the service, receiving a soldiers' land bounty. Coming to Illinois he settled at Holcomb, Ogle County, where he died in 1839. His grave was marked by the Rockford Chapter June 19, 1909.

BOONE COUNTY.

Boone County has at least two Revolutionary soldiers buried in Belvidere.

Timothy Lewis was born in Ashfield, Massachusetts, May 24, 1764. He served as a substitute for his father, Timothy Lewis, in April 1779 in Capt. — Densmore's Company, for six months; he again served as a substitute in 1780 under Capt. Isaac Newton, Col. — Maxwell's Regiment.

After the war he came to Illinois, settling in what is now Boone County, where he died May 2, 1858.

Thomas Hart was born March 3, 1757 in Farmington, Connecticut. He enlisted in 1776 and served one year. Coming to Illinois he settled in Boone county where he died Dec. 12, 1845.

These graves were both marked by the Rockford Chapter Oct. 20, 1911.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY.

Montgomery County has one more name to add to the list of Revolutionary soldiers, buried in that county:

Mason Owens, a native of Virginia, enlisted three different times, serving eight months under Capt. Joseph Rogers; ten months with Capt. George Strother, and five months with Capt. William Bunbury, Col. John Skinker. He was in several skirmishes, and at the siege of Yorktown. He was born in King George County, Sept. 8, 1760. In 1807 he removed to Kentucky, and in 1827 to Illinois; died in Montgomery County in 1846.

KENDALL COUNTY.

Henry Mizner, born in Berks County, Pennsylvania, Sept. 22, 1759; he enlisted in a Northumberland County, Pennsylvania regiment, serving under Capt. — Green for fifteen months. After the war he came to Indiana, where he received a pension for service in the Revolutionary War. He removed to Illinois, settling in Kendall County, where he died Sept. 25, 1848; is buried in the Millington cemetery, Kendall County.

PUTNAM COUNTY.

Isaiah Strawn, a native of Bucks County, Pennsylvania, born Oct. 28, 1758. He was too young to enter the service when the war began, his parents being Quakers and opposed to the shedding of human blood, Isaiah remained at home until the fall of 1777, when he enlisted, serving in the transportation line. At the Battle of Germantown, he rushed into battle, seizing the musket of a fallen friend, and neighbor, who had been mortally wounded. Soon after he received a charge of buckshot in his left leg and was carried from the field; one shot lodging in the hollow of his foot.

This he never permitted to be removed, carrying it for sixty-four years. He came to reside in Illinois in what is now Putnam County, where he died Aug. 14, 1843, and is buried in Florid cemetery, Putnam County.

MOULTRIE COUNTY.

James Patterson was born in Montgomery County, Virginia, July 5, 1758. He enlisted in 1775 from Rutherford County, North Carolina, serving three months under Capt. James Wilson, Col. — Rutherford's Regiment; he again enlisted in August, 1777, for three months, Capt. Jesse Lytle, Col. — Rutherford's Regiment.

In September 1780, he again served under Capt. Williams, Col. — Campbell's Regiment, serving three months, and finally for the fourth time, he served nine months under Capt. Jesse Lytle and Colonel Rutherford.

He was engaged in the Battles of King's Mountain, Cowpens. Guilford Court House, and Yorktown. He was wounded at Cowpens and was pensioned. He came to Illinois at an early day, settling in Moultrie County, then a part of Shelby County.

He died in 1838 and is buried near Sullivan, Moultrie County.